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A system and method for real-time transcoding of video data for transmission into a desired encoded format and bit-rate includes decoding, intra-transcoding, encoding and post-encoding processing. Decoding accommodates various input video data formats. Intra-transcoding processing includes deinterlacing, cropping, error correction and synchronization. Encoding accounts for post-codec processing of video data to remove compression errors before display. Post-encoding operations include encryption, packet identification and archiving.